

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Paragraph 4 is replaced by the following paragraph:

[4] In part to reduce the space in a channel frame header required to address a particular port and thus speed up routing of data, another port addressing scheme was developed. After a connection has been established between a node and a switch, each port in the node is assigned a unique (within the fabric) address (destination_id) by a controlling switch using a name server. The switch maintains a translation between the port address and the WWN-~~WWPN~~ address and can address any port in the fabric using the destination_id. Additionally, each slot of a node has a "name" (interface_id) by which the slot may be physically identified.